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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF OIL, GAS AND MINING
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE OF UTAH**

**SECRETARY, BOARD OF
OIL, GAS & MINING**

In the Matter of the Request for Agency
Action by Barrick Resources (USA) and
Barrick Gold Corporation, Requesting Partial
Release of Surety for Mining and
Reclamation Plan ACT/045/017

**Order Granting Leave to Amend
Petition, to Submit Additional
Exhibits, and Continue Hearing**

Docket No. 2004-022

Cause No. M/045/017

The Utah Board of Oil, Gas & Mining ("Board"), upon the Joint Motion of
Petitioners Barrick Resources (USA) and Barrick Gold Corporation (collectively
"Barrick"), by and through their attorneys, Parsons Behle & Latimer, and the Division of
Oil, Gas and Mining, through its counsel Steven F. Alder, Assistant Attorney General,
pursuant to the provisions of Utah Administrative Code R641-105-700, and for good
cause appearing,


HEREBY ORDERS as follows:

1. The Application and Request for Partial Release of Surety filed with the
Board of Oil, Gas, and Mining on October 21, 2004, and docketed as
No. 2004-022 is determined to have been timely filed, the subsequently
filed Request for Agency Action on November 5, 2004 is accepted as an
Amended Petition together with the Exhibits attached and filed
therewith.

2. Petitioners pursuant to Rule R641-104-240 are granted leave to Amend the Petition Requesting Partial Release of Surety for Mining and Reclamation Plan ACT/045/017 for the Mercur Mine (the "Plan") and to submit additional Exhibits in support of the Petition;
3. The hearing in this matter is HEREBY CONTINUED from the Board hearing set for December 1, 2004 until the January Board hearing on JANUARY 26, 2005 at the hour of 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard.

DATED this 15th day of DECEMBER, 2004.

STATE OF UTAH
BOARD OF OIL, GAS AND MINING



W. Allan Mashburn, Chairman

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing ORDER CONTINUING HEARING was hand delivered or placed in the United States mail postage prepaid addressed to the following persons on this 16th day of December, 2004, as follows:

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